Ensuring quality roads under PMGSY in Jharkhand

3978. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) by when all the tribal hamlets of 1000 families will be connected by Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Jharkhand;

whether the PMGSY roads in Jharkhand meet the quality norms of Government of India;

whether Government is aware that PMGSY works are sub-contracted number of times and hence sub-standard quality roads are constructed in Jharkhand; and

in what way Government propose to ensure quality in PMGSY?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) 'Rural Roads' has been identified as one of the six components of 'Bharat Nirman' with a goal to provide connectivity to all habitations with a population of 1000 persons and above (500 persons and above in the case of hilly or tribal areas) will an all-weather road by 2009. The Government of Jharkhand has informed that road works sanctioned under Pradhan Marntri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Phase I and II have been completed. Construction of roads under Phase III and IV are in progress. Under Phase V of PMGSY, proposals have been cleared to connect 369 hamlets of more than 1000 population for which tenders have been finalized. The State Government has indicated that the works under Phase V are likely to be completed by May, 2009. After clearance of Phase V proposals, 502 habitations having a population of 1000 or more will still remain unconnected. It has been indicated by the State Government that the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for providing connectivity to these 502 habitations are under preparation.

Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are constructed as per specifications applicable for rural roads and as per the provisions in Rural Roads Manual IRC SP: 20 prepared by Indian Roads Congress (IRC).

'Rural Roads' is a State subject. Projects under PMGSY are executed by State/UT Governments through their agencies. State Executing Agency award the works as per Standard Bidding Document (SBD). There is a provision for sub-contracting in SBD. Ensuring the quality of the road works is the responsibility of the State Government who is implementing the programme. NRRDA has issued general guidelines on quality control and prescribed a Quality Assurance Handbook to regulate quality control process at works level. Proposals for sub-contracting has not been received under PMGSY works.

(d) Under PMGSY, a three-tier Quality Control mechanism is envisaged. State Governments are responsible for the first two tiers of the quality control structure. The Programme Implementation Units (PIUs) is the first tier, whose primary responsibility is to ensure that all the materials utilized and the workmanship conform to the prescribed specifications. The PIU supervises the site quality control laboratory set up by the contractor. It also ensures that all the test prescribed are carried out at the specified time and place by the specified person/authority. Thus, as per Guidelines all the works under the PMGSY are tested for quality of material and workmanship by the implementing agency. Under second

tier of quality management, the State Government is required to deploy State Quality Monitors (SQMs) for monitoring of quality of road works under the programme. In the third tier of quality mechanism, National Rural Roads Develoment Agency (NRRDA) is engaging independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) for monitoring of quality of raod works on random basis. Since inception upto December, 2007, 1081 inspections have been carried out by the NQMs in Jharkhand. The details of quality grading awarded by NQMs are given below:

Completed Works				Ongoing V/orks			
Insp.	S	U 177	U%	Insp.	S	U 412	U%
281	104		37	800	388		49

The State Government has been advised to take up necessary rectification work in respect of projects which has been rated 'unsatisfactory' on the basis of inspection of NQMs and submit necessary action taken reports of the NRRDA.

Legend:—Insp=Inspection, S=Satisfactory, U=Unsatisfactory

Construction of roads under PMGSY in Orissa

3979. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether the Orissa Government has submitted certain proposals to the Ministry for construction/up-gradation of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for the State, for providing connectivity to the rural areas; and

if so, the details thereof indicating the time-frame within which the allocation would be made and the State Government apprised in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The Government of Orissa had last submitted project proposal for 1689 roads works measuring 6617.05 kilometers and valued at Rs. 2670.21 crore under Phase VII of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). These proposals have been cleared/sanctioned by the Ministry on November 8,2007. No further project proposal has been received from the Government of Orissa thereafter.

New guidelines for NREGS

3980. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has framed new guidelines for the implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme;